Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 ACDA-07 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /044 W ------040904Z 070175 /15

P R 040802Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO CDR PHIL DET DPDR PAC SUBIC BAY RF PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3865
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
CDR PDDR PAC HONOLULU HI
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU NEPAL
USDAO KATHMANDU NEPAL
AID EDP NCAD NEW CUMB PA

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DPDS BATTLE CREEK MI

CINCPAC FOR J47; DPDR PAC FOR DPDR PU

FROM ODC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MASS, IN

SUBJECT: SALE OF EXCESS MAP PROPERTY LOCATED IN NEPAL

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 6720 (DTG 101310Z MAY 1977)

1. REF A PROVIDED LATEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE AS TO REASONS FOR GOI DELAY IN MEETING WITH AMEMBASSY OFFICIALS TO RESOLVE PROCEDURES FOR INTERNATIONAL BIDDING FOR THE PROPOSED SALE OF SUBJECT EQUIPMENT.

2. A CONVERSATION WITH MR. K.N. CHAKRAVARTY, DEPUTY SECRETARY (NEPAL AID) MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA), GOI, ON 3 JUN 1977 REVEALED THAT THE GOI HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO RECONCILE THEIR PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN TO IDENTIFY AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPORT SPECIFIC ITEMS OF HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AS EXCESS TO GOI REQUIREMENT T. HE FURTHER STATED THAT THE GOI HAS "SECOND THOUGHTS" ON WHAT SHOULD BE RELEASED FOR SUBSEQUENT SALE AND THAT THE GOI OFFICIALS CONNECTED WITH THE MAHENDRA RAJ MARG (EAST-WEST HIGHWAY) NEPAL, PROJECT HAVE PUT ALL PREVIOUS DECISIONS AND/OR POSITIONS IN A "MELTING POT" FOR RECONCILIATION. A GOI FINAL POSITION

SHOULD BE DECIDED UPON EITHER ON 3 OR 4 JUN 1977 AND A REPLY PROVIDED TO THE AMEMBASSY EARLY NEXT WEEK.

3. FYI. THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE GOI DELAY AND INTERNAL RECONCILIATION OF THE SUBJECT EXCESS EQUIPMENT APPARENTLY COMMENCED WITH THE RECEIPT OF ODC'S TRIP REPORT - MAHENDRA RAJ MARG (EAST-WEST HIGHWAY), NEPAL DATED 30 DECEMBER 1976. THIS TRIP REPORT WAS THE FIRST EVER IN THE HISTORY OF THE HIGHWAY PROJECT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE GOI AND ACTED AS A CATALYSIS AND PROVIDED A SUMMARY OF ATTEMPTED ACTIONS TAKEN AND PROPOSED TO DATE TO DSIPOSE OF THE EXCESS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GOI, MEA OFFICIALS HAD NOT BEEN THOROUGHLY BRIEFED BY THEIR SUBORDINATE PROJECT OFFICIALS NOR WERE THE MEA OFFICIALS AWARE OF THE SCOPE OF ACTIONS TAKEN OR INVOLVED WITH DISPOSAL OF THE EQUIPMENT. THIS OVERSIGHT OR WEAK POINT IN GOI MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE POSITION WE FIND OURSELVES IN TODAY, NAMELY A "HOLDING PATTERN" AWAITING A FINAL DECISION FROM THE GOI, MEA OFFICIALS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE GOI WILL CONTINUE WITH THE PROPOSED DISPOSAL ACTIONS. END FYI. **GOHEEN**

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY SALES, PROPOSALS (BID)

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 04-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE08001
Document Source: Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770199-1045

Format: TEL From: NEW DELHI Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770690/aaaadaxr.tel

Line Count: 83 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 90954685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 NEW DELHI 6720

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 26-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2277715 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SALE OF EXCESS MAP PROPERTY LOCATED IN NEPAL

TAGS: MASS, IN, XX

To: n/a Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/90954685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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